AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC. Legal Department, M/S DLA29 Intellectual Property Administration P. O. Box 7599 Loveland, CO 80537-0599 PATENT APPLICATION ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10010372-1

OFFICIAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Nelson R. Holcomb et al.

Serial No.: 09/900,084

Filed: July 5, 2001

For: A BUFFER COMPOSITION

AND METHOD FOR HYBRIDIZATION OF MICROARRAYS ON ADSORBED POLYMER SILICEOUS SURFACES Date: May 9, 2003

Group Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Arun K. Chakrabarti

OFFICIAL RESPONSE

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

A Final Office Action mailed March 11, 2003 was received for the abovereferenced patent application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in light of the Remarks below. A Certificate of Transmission via facsimile is provided on the last page of this document.

Page 1 of 19